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The Pipeline

NOTE: Please send submissions for the June 6 Pipeline to LisaA.Wallace@mail.state.ky.us.

Miller chosen first recipient of "Hearts & Hands" award

By Mike Jennings, CFC Communications

Maryhurst, a key partner of the Cabinet for Families and Children in helping abused adolescents, has chosen CFC Secretary Viola Miller as the first recipient of its new "Hearts & Hands" award. Miller received the award at a May 21 ceremony in Louisville.



"Your dedicated service in the child welfare field has truly moved Kentucky forward through your devotion and concern for the most vulnerable in our state," Maryhurst officials said in a letter notifying Miller of the award.

"You have had the courage to make the important, needed changes in the way we care for Kentucky's families," the letter said.

The "Hearts & Hands" award is intended to honor those who provide leadership in improving the lives of at-risk children. The award was designed and crafted by Scott Hicks, president of Hicks Equipment, Inc.

A private, not-for-profit agency in Louisville, Maryhurst provides a variety of services to adolescent children who have suffered abuse and need residential or communitybased treatment. Maryhurst accepts referrals from CFC and the Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice, as well as out-ofstate and private referrals.



EAL Bright Idea of the Week

By Anya Armes Weber, CFC Communications

While most Cabinet staff have completed the Everyone a Leader skill-building sessions, we could all use small reminders of the lessons we studied. The "EAL Bright Idea of the Week" features tips that can help us improve our relationships with coworkers and our service to families.

When what seems like an unsolvable problem is weighing on you, gather your team and have a brainstorming session. Let even the impossible-sounding ideas live, at least until you can analyze them later. Involving others in problem solving can ease your mind and your workload. This kind of cooperation is what makes Comprehensive Family Services work for the families we serve.

Sick Leave Needs

Patrick Nesselrode, Division of Child Support, is in need of sick leave donations. To donate leave time, please contact Janice Burch at 564-2285 ext 4414.

Sick Leave Needs (con't.)

Wilma Morris of the Leasing & Design Branch is off work for approximately four weeks and is in need of sick leave donations. Please contact Radar Howe, Move Coordinator, at 564-7530 to donate sick leave to Wilma.

Thanks!

QCC delivers collected items to seniors

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By Anya Armes Weber, CFC Communications

Quality Central Connections (QCC) members recently delivered staff-donated items to area senior citizens in observance of Older Americans Month.

Eileen Cackowski and Janet Connor delivered the items to Frankfort's Bradford Square nursing home. Donated items included games, stuffed animals, throws, books and magazines, silk flowers and picture frames.

QCC members Bobbie Walters and Carolyn Osbourne collected items in the CHR and Schenkel Lane buildings, respectively.

Brenda Norman, activities director at the home, said residents are already enjoying the items from QCC's "Saluting Our Seniors" collection drive.

"I'm so appreciative on behalf of our residents," she said. "They love it. It's been very well received."

Norman said residents who come to her office looking for new puzzles are thrilled to piece together the new ones while they socialize. And personal items like lotions, tissue and toothbrushes are always needed, she said

"We gave the big stuffed teddy bear to a resident who loves stuffed animals, and she just hugged it and smiled," Norman said.

"We are just so thankful to you" for the contribution, she said.

Norman said contributions are always welcome at Bradford Square, and she encourages those willing to lead a session of bingo or another game or entertain the residents with music or song to call her at 875-5600. "We always welcome the community to visit," Norman said.

QCC thanks all staff who donated items or money to the drive to recognize seniors.

Women's Summit to address economic issues

Eleanor Jordan, Ombudsman for the Cabinet for Families and Children, is among the featured speakers at the first Summit on the Economic Status of Kentucky's Women June 20-21 in Frankfort, sponsored and hosted by the Kentucky Commission on Women (KCW).

Registration is \$65 and includes meals. For registration information, please visit the KCW website at www.women.ky.gov or call 502/564-6643. The registration deadline is June 6, and there will be no on-site registration. Summit planners said it is important that registrants plan to attend the entire two-day event to fully contribute to and benefit from the experience.

Forming the basis for summit discussions and activities is the final report of the Governor's Task Force on the Economic Status of Kentucky's Women. The final report contains recommendations addressing key concerns and influences on women's economic status

Summit participants will be asked to choose one of the six task force report topics during the summit to help craft ways to implement task force recommendations. These topics are:

- Economic Sufficiency Not all women have adequate opportunities to secure quality employment that will lead to self-sufficiency.
- <u>Education</u> Too many Kentuckians, especially females, are undereducated.
- <u>Equity</u> Discrimination persists in many Kentucky workplaces, schools, and all facets of society.
- <u>Leadership</u> Women are drastically underrepresented in positions of power in both the public and private sectors.
- <u>State Government</u> Women working in state government still face challenges such as discrimination in the workplace and inconsistent application of employment rules and practices.
- Well-being For many women basic living concerns such as safety, housing, and health care take precedence over getting a better education or a higher-paying job.

The task force published a preliminary report of its findings in December that can be viewed at http://women.ky.gov/PrelimFindings.pdf.

Pipeline, a weekly newsletter for employees of the Cabinets for Families and Children, welcomes reader comments and contributions. Items for Pipeline are due by 4:30 p.m. Tuesday. Call (502) 564-6180 or send information to Patricia Boler at patricia.boler@mail.state.ky.us.